(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, on what basis poor people are branded as risk group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rotary Blood Bank authorities have stated that they do not refuse to draw blood from poor people or rickshaw pullers. The point that was made in their brochure was that the poor should not be exploited for donation of their blood in exchange for paltry sums of money.

(c) and (d) Only if the blood sample meets certain minimum standards in terms of haemoglobin and absence of transfusion transmitted infection etc., it is accepted for transfusion. This ensures quality.

(e) Poor people are not branded as a risk group for donating blood.

Herbal Contraceptive Cream

†1934. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to include the herbal contraceptive cream, produced by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Lucknow into Family Welfare Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. there is no such proposal to include the herbal contraceptive cream, produced by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Lucknow into Family Welfare Programme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.